



Department of Energy

Idaho Operations Office
850 Energy Drive
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401-1563

July 11, 2002

Mr. Wayne Pierre, Team Leader
Environmental Cleanup Office
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region X
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

Mr. Dean Nygard, Site Remediation Manager
Idaho Department Environmental Quality
1410 N. Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706

SUBJECT: Submittal of the Draft Version of the Re-Evaluation of the Final Remediation Goals for Mercury at CFA-04 CFA-674 Pond) - (EM-ER-02-115)

Dear Mr. Pierre and Mr. Nygard:

In order to document the agreement reached between the agencies, we are requesting written concurrence that the final remediation goal (FRG) at the Operable Unit (OU) 4-13 CFA-04 Mercury Pond be increased from 0.5 mg/kg to 8.4 mg/kg based on the attached *Re-evaluation of the Final Remediation Goals for Mercury at the CFA-04 (CFA-674 Pond)* and pre-remediation soil sampling.

This increase in FRG meets the same risk targets established in the OU 4-13 Record of Decision (ROD) for human health and the environment. The re-evaluation of the FRG was completed because new information recently became available from Environmental Protection Agency sources on the toxicity, fate, and transport of mercury and from a research study on the chemical form of mercury in soil that indicates that the majority of the mercury is in a less toxic inorganic form. This information allowed a more realistic evaluation of the risk to both human and ecological receptors.

The 8.4 FRG will be used as the cleanup goal in the remediation of the CFA-04 Mercury Pond if pre-remediation sampling to be performed at the pond this summer verifies the assumptions in our risk evaluation. If it does not, the FRG will be recalculated based upon the sampling results. An explanation of significant difference to the ROD will be prepared to document this change and the public will be notified. Public comment would not be solicited.

If you have any questions or need further information please contact me at 208-526-4049.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol A. Hathaway".

Carol A. Hathaway
Environmental Restoration Program

Pierre, Nygard

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cc/enc: K. Ivy, EPA, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101
C. Cody, IDHW DEQ
John Herritt, MS 4160;
Tony Kluk, HQ, EM 441; 1 copy